



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Salvatore Giametta, Chair

Susan Atkins • Ann Haddad • Katie Sullivan • Abby Silverman Weiss • Sarah White • Alan Ziegaus

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Wednesday, February 1, 2012

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Salvatore Giametta, Ann Haddad, Katie Sullivan, Sarah White

Absent: Susan Atkins, Abby Silverman Weiss, Alan Ziegaus

Staff: Deborah Barrow, Library Director; Christine Siegel, Deputy Director; Steve Hawkesworth, Chief Financial and Chief Operating Officer, San Diego Public Library Foundation; Darren Greenhalgh, Deputy Director, Engineering and Capital Projects; Carol Tellez, Executive Secretary

Public: Punky and Anne Fristrom, Ann McDonald

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 2011 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Punky Fristrom

The Friends are planning a memorial for John McAllister. Punky introduced Ann McDonald as the candidate for President of the Friends. Once elected, Ann will attend the monthly Library Commission meetings.

At their last meeting, the Friends re-stated their five priorities for the Library System:

1. Do not close any branch library.
2. Maintain the Matching Funds Program.
3. Focus should be on youth and teen programs and staff should be supported.
4. Restore previous cuts to the Library's budget.
5. Time for staff to start rebuilding the Library's budget, staff and programs.

The Friends of the Pt. Loma/Hervey Branch Library held an awards ceremony for essay contest winners on January 31, 2012. The ceremony for the winners of the annual City-wide essay contest will be held at the Balboa Park Club at 6:30 p.m. on May 3, 2012.

Serra Update/Legislative Update 10.c

State budget reductions to library programs have been enacted. The impact to the Serra Cooperative Library System means we have no funds now for system delivery or reference. These duties are being absorbed by the member libraries. The impact to the Literacy Read Program means the loss of a staff member; however, that position has been vacant in anticipation of this cut. PLF funds have been cut and this will impact our plan to implement RFID in the coming years at branch libraries.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update: Darren Greenhalgh

Mr. Greenhalgh gave an update on the New Central Library. The project is on schedule and work continues on drywall framing and pouring concrete on the ninth floor. It is anticipated that the dome placement will begin later in the month.

Ocean Beach Library: The library is closed for deferred maintenance and repairs.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE: Steve Hawkesworth

Mayor Jerry Sanders announced in his State of the City address that funding has been secured to complete construction of the New Central Library project by means of a private guarantor.

The Library Foundation has a number of visible naming opportunities still available for the New Central Library including the panoramic three-story Reading Room.

In mid-January NBC San Diego's Consumer Bob profiled the growth in use of library electronic resources. Library staff, and in particular Robyn Gage, did a fantastic job explaining the availability of these valuable resources.

The Library Foundation continues to develop compelling stories which are available on its *What's Your Story* section of their webpage. A handout was distributed telling the story of Alan Canizalez who used the Library's READ Program to launch his own successful business after losing his job.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Deborah Barrow

- Library Commissioner Sarah White announced that the Library, in partnership with KPBS, will sponsor the *One Book, One San Diego* kickoff event on Wednesday, February 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. The event will feature three authors and their books: *Sky of Red Poppies* by Zohreh Ghahremani, *Moloka'i* by Alan Brennert and *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea.
- New Central Library visit by staff on January 27: Ms. Barrow reported that this is a very exciting and challenging time. We have one year to get a number of tasks completed such as review of the collection, planning the physical move, bids for the moving vendor, operation of the parking garage and the gift store.
- The library has a number of vacancies that need to be filled. Interviews are currently being conducted for Librarian III/IV positions, and the process has begun for filling Librarian I/II vacancies. There are also Library Assistant and Library Clerk positions that need to be filled in the Library's Business Office.
- There will be a number of retirements from the Library Department on March 31 and April 1 due to recent changes in benefits.
- San Diego Public Library, under the leadership of the Serra Cooperative Library System, helped develop a bi-national mini-conference to share information and discuss resources among upper Baja California and greater San Diego area libraries. The event was held at the Logan Heights Library and approximately 200 people attended.
- Library staff are planning the second Library Staff Development Day. It is tentatively scheduled to be held in mid-April. All libraries will be closed that day so that staff may attend this important training opportunity. Arrangements have been made for a keynote speaker. Staff will focus on looking at issues of a change in culture while creating a new library system with the New Central Library.
- The Overdrive Digital Bookmobile will be at the Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa Library on February 16 and 17. Trained experts will be on hand to assist with a variety of tasks such as downloading eBooks and tips on how to search the Library's digital media collection.
- Terms for Library Commissioners Atkins, Haddad, Silverman Weiss and Ziegaus will expire in early March 2012. They are all eligible to be reappointed by the Mayor for another term.
- Ms. Barrow gave an overview of the IBA's report to the Budget and Finance Committee on Library Benchmarks. This report is scheduled to go before the Budget and Finance Committee on at 9:00 a.m. on February 8, 2012.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Salvatore Giametta

Commissioner Giametta asked when the New Central Library will be open. It is scheduled to be open in the summer of 2013.

AGENDA ITEMS (cont)

10.b Budget Update

The City was projected to face a \$31.8 million deficit for the FY 2013 budget but due to changes in the ARC payment and other factors, the deficit may be lower – a deficit of approximately \$12 million is now tentatively projected.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Barrow will check to see if Legislative Day is being held this year, and report back to the commissioners at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Giametta adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Deborah L. Barrow

DEBORAH L. BARROW

Library Director

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